JUDGMENT DAY 2

JUSTICE LEAGUE TASK FORCE™

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13
JUN 94

BY WAID, VELLUTO & ALBRECHT

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

HANNIGAN
Velluto
Albrecht

DAWN OF DOOM!

"YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN PROUD OF ME, MA.

"IT WAS JUST LIKE WE LEARNED IN SCHOOL.

"ME, BOOSTER GOLD! I SOLDIERED THE JUSTICE LEAGUE TO ITS GREATEST VICTORY!

"I LED THE ATTACK THAT DEFEATED THE OVER-MASTER AND FREED THE WORLD!

"IT WAS MY DESTINY!"

JUDGMENT DAY PART TWO:

SPLIT DECISION

IT WAS MY DESTINY...!

HE'S MUTTERING-- WHAT'S HE SAYING?

NOTHING... NOTHING THAT COUNTS ANYMORE!

FASTER, RAY-- FASTER!

WE'RE LOSING HIM!

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CAP-- WHAT HAPPENED TO BOOSTER BACK THERE? I THOUGHT WE WERE WINNIN'!

WE--

--ЗNNFF--

--WE WERE...

"...UNTIL THE DEVASTATOR AMBUSHED US-- AND CARVED BOOSTER TO PIECES!

"WE WERE FOOLS TO FOLLOW HIM INTO BATTLE! BOOSTER ASSURED US THAT FUTURE HISTORY PROCLAIMED US THE VICTORS... AND I BELIEVED HIM!"

L-RON... DESPERO... HELL, WHATEVER YOUR NAME IS--

--YOU'VE TRAVELED THE SPACEWAYS! TELL ME ABOUT THIS "OVERMASTER"!

"WHAT LITTLE I HAVE HEARD, FRIEND ATOM, CHILLS THE SOUL. THE OVERMASTER IS A BEING OF WORLD-SHATTERING POWER.

"HIS MOTIVES ARE AS YET A MYSTERY-- BUT HIS DANGER IS ABUNDANTLY CLEAR. WHEN I LEARNED OF HIS VOYAGE TO EARTH, I CAME TO WARN YOU OF HIS ARRIVAL..."

...AND ARRIVED TOO LATE.*

*THE PREVIOUS RECAPS DETAIL EVENTS FROM J.L.T.F. #12 AND J.L.A. #90.-- BRIAN

"BY THE TIME I FOUND YOU, HIS STAR-CITADEL HAD ALREADY CAPPED YOUR "MOUNT EVEREST"--

"-- GIVING HIM TIME TO ASSEMBLE HIS OWN GUARD OF EARTHBORN SOLDIERS!"

"THE CADRE-- AND THEY HANDED US OUR HEADS! BOOSTER NEVER READ ABOUT THAT IN HIS TWENTY-FIFTH CENTURY HISTORY BOOKS!"

SPARE US YOUR INDIGNATION, CAPTAIN! MY TELEPATHIC SCAN SHOWS THAT BOOSTER'S MEMORIES OF WHAT SHOULD HAVE HAPPENED ARE GENUINE!

THE FAULT LIES NOT WITH OUR DOWNED COMRADE--BUT WITH TIME ITSELF!

AND THAT CRISIS IS NOT YET OURS TO SOLVE!

FOCUS INSTEAD ON WHAT WE CAN DO FOR BOOSTER!

HE NEEDS MEDS-- BUT THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO OPERATE UNTIL WE UNLOCK HIS ARMOR, AND ONLY HE AND BEETLE KNOW HOW THAT'S DONE!

MAXIMA--FLY AHEAD! TELL BEETLE TO PREP HIS LAB FOR MICROSURGERY!

J'ONN-- GO FIND SOME DOCTORS! WE'LL RENDEZVOUS--

"--AT THE NEW YORK HEADQUARTERS!"
WHERE DO YOU WANT ME?
IT DOESN'T MATTER.
WHAT SHOULD I BE DOING?
IT DOESN'T MATTER.
I...I SHOULDN'T EVEN BE HERE. THIS SUIT... IT'S MY GRANDFATHER'S. I'M REALLY NOT A--
HAVE YOU CHOSEN A CODE NAME?
--LOOK...YOU DON'T GET IT. I'M NOT ONE OF YOU. I'M NOT A HERO.
YOU HAVE POWERS?
WELL...YES...
YOU WEAR A COSTUME.
...I... WELL...
BUT YOU'RE NOT A HERO.
=SIGH=
WHERE DO YOU WANT ME?
IT DOESN'T MATTER.
GYPSY? OBERON?
HAVE WE HEARD ANYTHING FROM ATOM'S STRIKE FORCE?
NOT WORD ONE, CHIEF! LOOKS LIKE THEY REALLY DIDN'T NEED OUR HELP AFTER--
5

MOVE!

FWAM

MAYBE... MAYBE OVER THERE,..

LABS

WHAT WAS *THAT* ABOUT?

SHE'S HEADED FOR *BEETLE'S* LAB-- BUT WHERE ARE THE *OTHER*--?

OUT OF THE WAY!

COMING THROUGH! **SCRAMBLE,** PEOPLE!

WOW.

STOP RIGHT THERE, ATOM! WHAT'S *HAPPENED*? WHERE HAVE *YOU* BEEN?

DRINKING COFFEE AND HANGING OUT!

NO, WAIT-- THAT'S YOUR TEAM!

MOVE IT, PRINCESS! YOU WANT A *REPORT*? CATCH ME *LATER*--

--AND YOU CAN TAKE ALL THE *DICTATION* YOU LIKE!

LAB 3

...FIVE... SIX... AND *METAMORPHO* MAKES ONLY SEVEN...?

MEANING?

WHERE'S ICE?!

BENARES, INDIA.

FOLLOWING THE GLOBAL EARTHQUAKE CAUSED BY THE OVERMASTER'S VIOLENT LANDING, THE YOUNG HEROINE MAYA-- ALONG WITH LIONHEART AND OTHER FRIENDS OF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE-- LED KATMANDU'S QUAKE SURVIVORS TO THIS HOLY CITY.

THEY BELIEVED THEY COULD THERE PROTECT THE OVERMASTER'S VICTIMS.

THEY WERE WRONG.

THUNDERBOLT! WHO THE BLOODY HELL *ARE* THESE BLOKES?

TOUGH TIME FOR A ROLL CALL, LIONHEART! KEEP SWINGING THAT *SWORD* AND WE'LL SORT 'EM OUT *LATER!*

MAYA! HOW'S THAT *BACKUP* COMING?

TOO MUCH *INTERFERENCE!* I CAN'T GET *THROUGH!*

JUSTICE LEAGUE, THIS IS *MAYA!* IS ANYONE *THERE?* ANYONE AT--

--OH!

ZZZZZ

OVER...

...AND OUT!

DON'T TOUCH HER!

RUN, GIRL!

BUT--

NO BUTS! GET WORD OUT HOWEVER YOU CAN! RUN!

RUNNNN!

ENOUGH.

IT IS TIME FOR YOUR FIRST TASK UNDER MY/OUR COMMAND. GO SUMMON MY/OUR TROOPS AND BRING THEM BACK... FOR THE TIME HAS COME.

THERE IS INDEED A MESSAGE TO BE SENT... BUT I/WE WILL DELIVER IT.

PLEASE...YOU HAVE TO SAVE HIM...

...HE'S MY BEST FRIEND IN THIS WORLD.

WE'LL DO EVERY-THING POSSIBLE. STILL, YOU MUST UNDERSTAND-- WE HAVEN'T MUCH LEFT TO WORK WITH.

SCALPEL.

...

NEVER MIND. FORGET THE ARM. THAT'S GONE.

LET'S... LET'S CONCENTRATE ON THE REST OF HIM...

HE'S A FIGHTER. HE'LL PULL THROUGH. DON'T YOU THINK SO, J'ONN?

J'ONN?

C'MON UP, RAY. LET'S LEAVE HIM BE.

BUT I... I FEEL SO HELPLESS JUST STANDING AROUND! I WANT TO DO SOMETHING...

NOTHIN' WE CAN DO BUT PRAY... NOT JUST FOR BOOSTER, BUT FOR--

ICE!

YOU LEFT HER BEHIND?!

I DIDN'T WANT TO--BUT SHE WAS M.I.A.! BOOSTER WAS THERE! WE HAD TO FIGHT FOR THE LIFE WE COULD SAVE!

WE WERE OUTGUNNED, OKAY? WOULD YOU PREFER THAT NONE OF US HAD COME BACK ALIVE?

OF COURSE NOT, ATOM. BUT THE LEAGUE ALWAYS TAKES CARE OF ITS OWN!

WHAT DO YOU THINK WE WERE DOING, WOMAN? WE WON'T REST UNTIL WE FIND HER! WE--

HEY! HEY! YOU SAID TO INTERRUPT IF WE GOT A COMMUNIQUÉ?

WELL, THIS JUST IN-- SOMEONE'S HITCH-HIKING ON THE INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY!

EVERY FREQUENCY ON THE GLOBE IS PICKING THIS UP...!

ATTENTION, PEOPLE OF EARTH!

I/WE THE OVERMASTER, HAVE COME TO YOUR PLANET FOR ONE PURPOSE, AND ONE PURPOSE ONLY...

...TO ERADICATE THE HUMAN RACE!

.1173 FREQ.4
ZH.821539071!
MHZ.0341601A'
KHZ.1.000374
MT. EVEREST, NEPAL.

'ALL FREQ.

"BY MY OUR JUDGMENT, THE CAPACITY OF YOUR PEOPLE TO EVOLVE--TO GROW--POSES A SEVERE THREAT TO THE BALANCE OF EXISTENCE THROUGHOUT THE GALAXY!

"SUCH A THREAT MUST BE EXTINGUISHED!

GINZA

Nikon

"FOR MANY WEEKS NOW, A SELECTED NUMBER OF YOU HAVE TRUMPETED MY OUR COMING. THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE BEEN MY OUR HARBINGERS HAVE BEEN PRIVY TO THE ULTIMATE KNOWLEDGE:

NY. STOCK EXCHANGE

"THAT ONE WEEK FROM TODAY...THE HUMAN RACE WILL MEET ITS END."

THERE ARE DOUBTLESS THOSE ABILITY TO IMPOSE SUCH A SENTENCE. SUCH SKEPTICS WOULD DO WELL TO WATCH...

...AS I/WE DEMONSTRATE MY/OUR ABSOLUTE MIGHT.

THOSE AMOEBA-THINGS! WE SAW THEM EXIT THE OVERMASTER'S SHIP--

BUT GAVE THEM NO THOUGHT! OUR MISTAKE--

CENTRAL CITY

--FOR THEY'RE SWARMING CENTRAL CITY!

CENTRAL CITY

ALL FREQ.

WE HAVE TO SEND SOMEONE-

--FLASH?

VVOOOO

"PEOPLE OF EARTH--USE YOUR REMAINING DAYS WISELY AND WELL, BUT MAKE NO MISTAKE--

THE END IS HERE!

"--RESISTANCE IS FUTILE."

NO. NO.

Welcome TO CENTRAL CITY

"AS GOES CENTRAL CITY--

"--SO GOES THE WORLD!"

GONE... ALL OF IT...

...GONE!

ZOOOOOOOOOOM!

IN THE MINUTES TO COME, I/WE SHALL FURTHER PROVE CLEARLY AND WITHOUT QUESTION MY/OUR COMMAND OVER LIFE AND DEATH. REST ASSURED-- EARTH'S JUDGMENT HAS BEEN PREORDAINED.

THERE IS NO HOPE OF REPRIEVE. ALREADY HAVE I/WE LAID WASTE TO YOUR MIGHTIEST DEFENDERS... YOUR SO-CALLED JUSTICE LEAGUE.

FOR THEM, I/WE LEAVE THIS ULTIMATUM: ANY FURTHER ATTEMPT AT CONFRONTATION WILL SEVERELY SHORTEN HUMANITY'S LAST HOURS... AND FORFEIT ITS FINAL DAYS.

DO NOT FORCE MY/OUR HAND.

THAT IS ALL.

FLASH...?

YOU HEARD HIM! NOW--ARE YOU WITH ME?

YOU'RE ASKING MY OPINION THIS TIME? THEN YES. WHEN IT'S A QUESTION OF GIVING OUR ALL, WE ARE ALWAYS ON THE SAME SIDE.

IT'S TRUE! EVERY WORD OF IT!

AN ENTIRE CITY--THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE--

--WE CAN'T LET THIS HAPPEN!

FINE! THIS TIME THE LEAGUE ATTACKS FULL FORCE!

THIS TIME NO ONE GETS LEFT BEHIND!

THIS TIME--

--EVERYONE GETS LEFT BEHIND!

YOU'RE STANDING IN THE SHADOW OF THE UNITED NATIONS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! THEY SANCTION YOU--AND THEY HAVE EXPLICIT ORDERS FOR YOU!

WHO'S THE ATTITUDE?

IT'S A PROCLAMATION FROM THE SECURITY COUNCIL. IN THE FACE OF THE OVERMASTER'S THREATS, THEY'VE ORDERED THE LEAGUE TO HOLD FAST... AT LEAST UNTIL THE U.N. CAN...

...IS THIS RIGHT...?

HANNIBAL MARTIN. U.N. LIAISON AND FULL-TIME SOURBALL. HANNIBAL NEWS IS ALWAYS BAD NEWS.

...VOTE ON AN OFFICIAL PLAN OF ATTACK...?

VOTE?

BOOOF!

VOTE?

HEY--STUFF THIS IN YOUR BALLOT BOX, MARTIN!

I'M CALLING THE SHOTS AROUND HERE--AND NO ONE STANDS IN THE WAY OF THAT!

NOT YOU--NOT ANY--

WRONG.

THWAM

THE AMAZON HAS LOST HER MIND! SHE'S LAUNCHED AN ATTACK!

SHE'S TRYING TO CALM HIM DOWN! NO ONE'S ATTACKING ANYONE, YOU STUPID--

FZZTT

--AARGH!

WHAT'S GOING ON UP THERE? THE WHOLE BUILDING IS SHAKING!

THUMP THUM

THAH THUM

LET IT GO! JUST KEEP WORKING!

DON'T LET HIM DIE!

I WILL NOT BE CALLED A COWARD, ATOM!

IF THE SLIPPER FITS, PRINCESS...

...YOU WANT TO BOW TO U.N. RULES? HERE'S A NEWS FLASH! THE OVERMASTER DOESN'T PLAY BY THE RULES!

A PREEMPTIVE STRIKE IS OUR ONLY CHANCE!

I'VE GOT YOUR PRE-EMPTIVE STRIKE RIGHT HERE, YOU HOT-HEADED--

THAT'S IT! TAKE HER SIDE, YOU CRINGING--

STOP!

HOW DARE YOU?

OUR WORLD--INSIDE AND OUT--IS ENDING! HOW CAN YOU SQUANDER PRECIOUS TIME BICKERING?

J'ONN'S RIGHT. WE NEED TO FORMULATE OUR OWN TACTICS--

STOP TALKING OUT OF YOUR TIARA.

YOU WEREN'T THERE. YOU DON'T KNOW. OUR PLAN SHOULD BE TO GO--

--ALL OF US THIS TIME--

--KICK HIS BUTT AND TAKE BACK OUR OWN! TOGETHER, WE CAN DESTROY THE OVERMASTER!

WOULD THAT I WERE AS CONFIDENT.

THIS ISN'T SOME BARROOM BRAWL! HE WARNED AGAINST RESISTANCE! IF WE GAMBLE AGAINST THAT--AND LOSE--THE ENTIRE PLANET PAYS!

SO INSTEAD WE SURRENDER PRECIOUS TIME.

I AM. I'M AN AMAZON. WE INVENTED MILITARY STRATEGY.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE A WARRIOR.

THEN GO PLAY CHESS. I HAVE A WAR TO FIGHT. WHOEVER'S WITH ME CAN FOLLOW--

--AND YOU CAN'T FORCE ANY OF THEM TO STAY.

WRONG AGAIN.

FINE.

GO.

WE'LL WIN, DIANA. WE WILL WIN.

YOU'D BETTER.

WELL...GOOD TO SEE YOU'VE GOT YOUR PRETTY LITTLE HEAD SCREWED ON STRAIGHT.

DO

NOT

PATRONIZE ME.

"MY" LEAGUE WILL COOPERATE WITH THE U.N.--FOR A LITTLE WHILE. BUT TELL THEM TO GET THEIR ACT TOGETHER, MARTIN--FAST. I DON'T WANT TO REGRET THIS.

I SUPPOSE NOW, WE SHOULD...

SHOULD WHAT?

DOES IT MUH-MATTER? DOES ANY OF IT M-MATTER?

BEETLE...?

TED, WHAT'S WRONG?

TED--SAY SOMETHING!

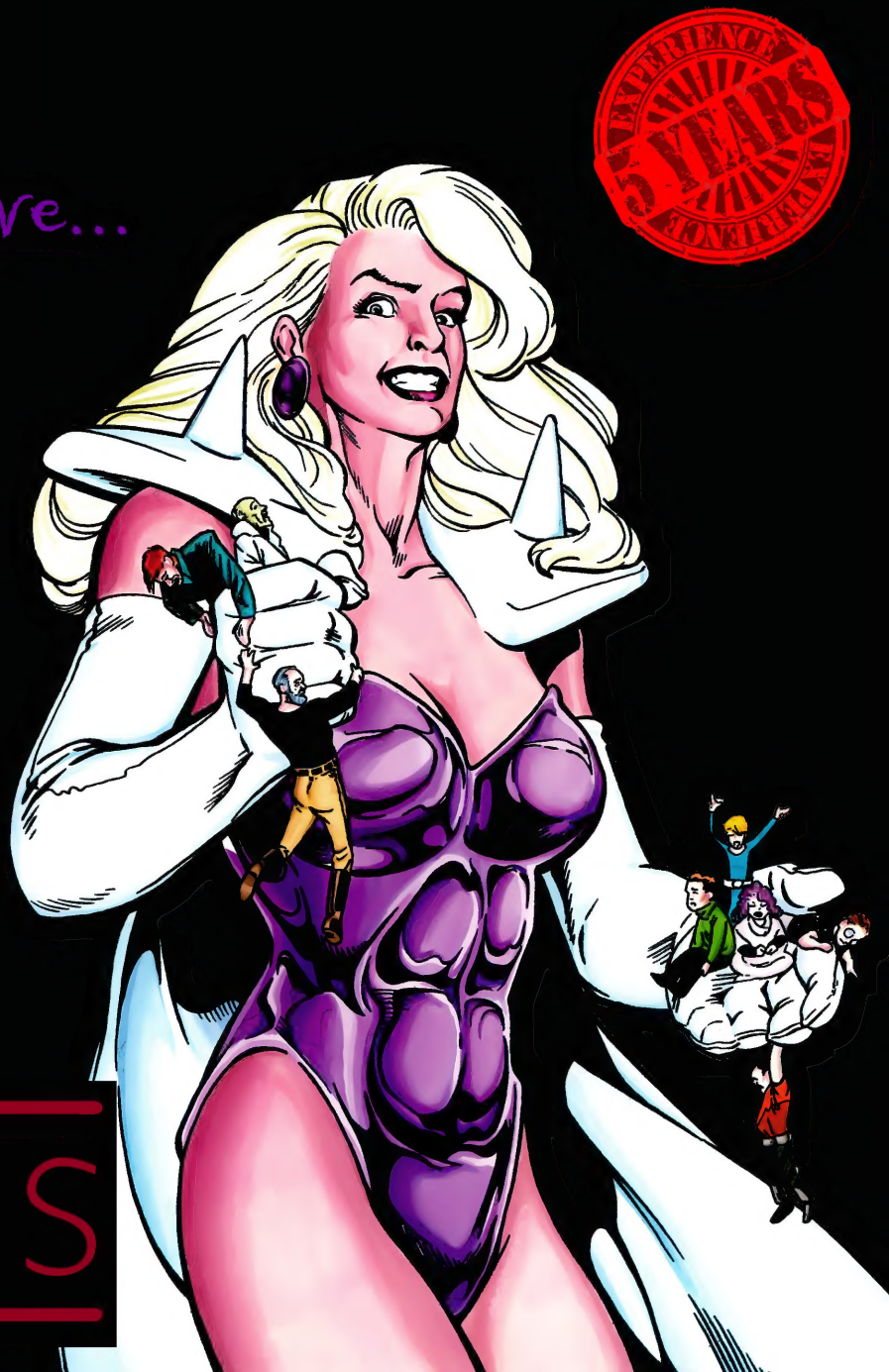
BUH... BUH...

...BOOSTER...

...HE'S FLATLINED...!

CONTINUED IN JUSTICE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL #65!

From Baaldur, with love...



GLORITH

novus